Aloha!

On January 3rd in Washington, D.C., I was sworn in to the 116th Congress (2019-2020) to represent you and some 700,000 of our fellow citizens of Hawaii's First Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives. The great First District stretches from Makapu'u Point through East and Central Honolulu, to Pearl City and up to Mililani, and down through Waipahu, 'Ewa, Kapolei and Ko Olina to Kahe Point. Though it is mainly urban and suburban Honolulu, it is closely connected to the rest of O'ahu and Hawai'i and so my responsibilities in Congress extend throughout our home.

My mission as your U.S. Congressman is to (1) contribute to national leadership for our country and world, (2) assure that Hawaii's needs are addressed by our federal government, and (3) assist you with your individual concerns.

These all require that I stay in close contact with you, keep you informed on my thoughts and activities, and listen to your views and concerns wherever and however I can. This newsletter updates you on my first months in office, lets you know how to contact me and stay up to date on my activities as your Congressman, and asks for your input.

Most important, please sign up for my regular e-newsletter at case.house.gov
SECURING VALUED COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
Much of the work of Congress is done through our committees and so my focus since January 3rd has also been on securing appointments to House committees of particular importance to Hawai‘i and our country.

I was deeply honored to be appointed to the House Committee on Appropriations. This committee, the oldest in the House, is one of the most powerful and coveted as it is responsible for all federal discretionary spending. Like other committees, this committee does much of its work in subcommittees, and my subcommittee assignments provide me extra ability to work on military, veterans, tourism, environment, science and other areas of special interest to Hawai‘i. It has been almost three decades since Hawai‘i had a seat on House Appropriations, and I am especially looking forward to partnering with Senator Schatz, who sits on the Senate Committee on Appropriations, Senator Hirono and Representative Gabbard to assure that Hawai‘i’s needs are addressed.

I was also very pleased to be appointed to the House Committee on Natural Resources. This committee has broad jurisdiction over our public lands and waters, as well as critical environmental protection, Native American and territorial programs. I’m especially looking forward to focusing through Natural Resources on Native Hawaiian issues as well as national oceans policy.

RETURNING GOVERNMENT TO THE PEOPLE
I was driven to return to Congress by my membership in the ReFormers Caucus, a national bipartisan organization of former Members of Congress, Governors and Cabinet members who believe that our government is broken, that most citizens are excluded, and that the root cause is unregulated, unlimited, undisclosed special interest money washing through politics. No other single issue enjoys such widespread agreement across Americans of all parties and beliefs. I was therefore very proud to have co-introduced the very first piece of legislation placed before this Congress, H.R. 1, the For the People Act, is a sweeping proposal that takes dead aim at many of the causes of this broken system so that our democracy truly works for all citizens and not the few. My first speech before Congress was in support of H.R. 1, and my colleagues and I are committed to seeing these reforms through.

SERVING YOU
I was also fortunate to assemble a great staff in both D.C. and Honolulu to assist me in representing you. They all have Hawai‘i roots and knowledge and many have experience on Capitol Hill. We are here to serve your whenever and however we can. These are just some of the services we offer you:

• Welcoming Your Input and Questions. We want to know what you think and to answer your questions on issues of interest to you.

• Visiting Our Offices. We welcome you to visit our offices to meet personally. If you come to D.C., we can also show you around the U.S. Capitol and assist with tours and suggestions for other D.C. attractions.

• Assisting You With Your Individual Needs. We can help with your questions and needs, especially with our federal government. Some frequent areas are Social Security, Medicare and veterans benefits and immigration, but there are many others.

• Joining Your Events/Recognizing Achievements. I look forward to joining community events when I can. We can also send congratulatory messages for special events.

Please feel free to contact us for any of these services at our phone numbers, or at ed.case@mail.house.gov, or off our website at case.house.gov.